

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORTTOPIC Military Information from the Lieberose Troop Training Grounds

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 19 August 1953REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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1. During the night on 18 June 1953, 73 tanks were seen en route toward Luebben via Liebitz-Byhlen and Straupitz, coming from the direction of Jamlitz. It was rumored that, during the same night, about 150 tanks passed through Goyatz, coming from the direction of Lieberose and proceeding toward Luebben and Berlin. On 21 June, T-43 tanks guarded the Lieberose-autobahn road. During the night on 3 July, elements of the tanks which had left on 18 and 19 June, returned to Jamlitz via Straupitz, coming from the direction of Luebben. ¹ On 10 July, the Lieberose-Peitz road was blocked because of firing practices. Prior to 8 p.m., firing of tanks and artillery was heard. Motor vehicles seen on the Jamlitz-Schoenhoehe-Peitz road

trucks

and loaded with barrels, were seen en route to the troop training grounds, coming from the direction of Luebbenau. On 18 July, the training area along the Lieberose-Peitz road was quiet. The road to Schoenhoehe was blocked, presumably because of construction work. A narrow-gauge field railway connected the crossing with Camp Schoenhoehe. An electric line also led to Schoenhoehe.

large construction projects, including barracks installations and sheds, were planned in the Schoenhoehe area with the VEB Bauunion Sued. A paved road had been constructed from the Lieberose-Peitz road to Camp Schoenhoehe. The Lieberose-Peitz road was crossed by three tank roads. ² The field bakery and the camp north of the road to Staakow were vacant. Individual bivouacs were seen at the edges of the woods in the Jamlitz training area. Tanks and AT guns practiced firing with live ammunition in the Laeskow area. Motor vehicles

 were seen en route to and from the training area. ³

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2. At about 4 p.m. on 22 July, a combined arms unit, including 6 ton 8 JS-2 tanks, 60 to 100 infantrymen with 82-mm and 120-mm mortars, 1 rocket launcher, 3 armored personnel carriers and several armored scout cars, was seen in a simulated attack in the area west of the Lieberose-Peitz road. The unit fired with live ammunition against targets at a distance of 1,000 meters. Other troops watched the exercise from several watchtowers beside the training area. A well camouflaged fuel depot was on the edge of the training area west of the Lieberose-Peitz road, immediately on the edge of the woods. At 6 p.m. on 22 July, workers with the Bauunion Sued were shipped from Schoenhoehe to Lieberose on a truck Trucks

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_____ were seen on the Lieberose-Peitz road.

3. Between 10 June and 25 July, _____ about 380 men, including 150 workers of the Bauunion Dresden, were employed in the construction of the barracks installation east of Drachhausen. The number of workers from the Bauunion Dresden will allegedly be increased to 800 men. Twenty-five trucks were detached from Wuensdorf for the shipment of material and supply, instead of four trucks previously employed in supply traffic. The trucks were under the control of a senior lieutenant who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The troops were quartered in tents.

Unit Orlopkov was stationed in Camp Schoenhoehe. ⁴ On 15 July, _____ work was still under way in Camp Schoenhoehe. The troops stationed at the camp returned after a short absence on 24 and 27 June. The camp was occupied by an estimated 6,000 to 7,000 men. Beginning 30 June, firing of tanks and AT guns was daily heard from the direction of the Lieberose firing range.

_____ units from Camp Schoenhoehe held AT firing practices. ²

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4. _____ troops were entrained in Tauer, leaving toward Frankfurt/Oder on 2 and 3 July. New troops arrived in Tauer on 4 and 5 July. Between 11 and 15 July _____ motor vehicles were passing through Peitz, coming from the direction of Schoenhoehe and proceeding toward Cottbus

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5. The troop camp between Gross See, Klein See and Schoenhoehe included Jagen (forest section)

_____ the supply for Camp Schoenhoehe-Teerofen was detrained in Tauer and was trucked to the camp.

7. On 21 July, a small mixed unit, including T-43 tanks _____ 2 armored sidecar motorcycles, _____ personnel carriers and sedan _____ was seen in a simulated attack on the Tauer hill, 500 meters from the Lieberose-Peitz railroad line. From 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. ² on 17 July, the Lieberose-Peitz road was blocked because of artillery firing.

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Comment. _____ confirms the departure of elements probably of both, the 7th Gds Mecz Div as well as the 9th Mecz Div, in connection with the uprising. _____ the tanks employed near the autobahn probably belonged to the 91st Tank Regt of the 9th Mecz Div stationed in Luebben. _____ the bulk of the units of this division allegedly had returned to the training grounds between 26 and 29 June. _____

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Comment. The exercises and the vehicular traffic involved units of the 9th Mecz Div. Construction work at the Tauer training area of the division and its camp in Forst Tauer is being continued. _____ Loadings and unloadings observed in Tauer probably involved units of this division. The entrained units, therefore, are believed to have left toward Cottbus and presumably were guard details of the division rotated to and from the barracks installations.

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3. [] Comment. [] the
Lieberose troop training grounds, in late July, was allegedly vacated, except 50X1-HUM
for guard details of units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div. []
The elements of the division stationed in Fuerstenwalde were employed in Berlin
after mid-July, and the elements of the division stationed in Frankfurt/Oder,
[] bivouacked in the training area from 50X1-HUM
where they apparently engaged in their normal training program.
4. [] Comment. This installation, which presumably is scheduled to quarter units
of the 9th Mecz Div, was repeatedly reported on. [] The
trucks are rather safely believed to belong to the 56th Motor Trans Regt of the
GDRG []
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